

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02590 240548Z

43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 L-03 COME-00 /041 W

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R 240434Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1625

INFO COMUSTDC TAIPEI TAIWAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, TW

SUBJ: OLD DOMINION DAIRY: KUCHENBECKER VISA PROBLEM

REF: TAIPEI 0610

1. MOFA HAS FINALLY ACCORDED SOFA STATUS TO HERBERT M. KUCHENBECKER, TAIWAN MANAGER FOR OLD DOMINION DAIRY. HIS CASE WAS VERY SOLIDLY STUCK IN THE ROC BUREAUCRACY, AND IT TOOK SUCCESSIVELY HIGHER LEVEL APPROACHES ON OUR PART IN MOFA AND THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY, ULTIMATELY IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE DCM AND THE ECONOMICS MINISTER, TO GET IT UNSTUCK.

2. ON APRIL 23, WE RECEIVED A NOTE FROM MOFA WHICH RECOGNIZES THE SOFA CONTRACTOR STATUS OF OLD DOMINION FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1974 (THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT RENEWAL), AND STATES THAT APPROPRIATE TREATMENT WILL BE ACCORDED MR. KUCHENBECKER AND HIS DEPENDENTS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN OUR FOUR YEARS OF DEALINGS WITH THE GROD CONCERNING OLD DOMINION THAT IT HAS EXPLICITLY ACKNOWLEDGED OLD DOMINION'S SOFA CONTRACTOR STATUS.

3. MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE COWBARN, OLD DOMINION HAS DECIDED TO TRANSFER KUCHENBECKER TO OKINAWA. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 02590 240548Z

DECISION IS "NINETY-NINE PERCENT CERTAIN", AND

KUCHENBECKER IS PLANNING TO MOVE TO OKINAWA ABOUT JUNE 1.
OLD DOMINION IS PLANNING TO HIRE A CHINESE LOCAL
MANAGER (THEY UNDERSTAND THAT HE WILL NOT ENJOY SOFA
STATUS), RATHER THAN BRING IN ANOTHER AMERICAN.
KUCHENBECKER WILL RETAIN SUPERVISORY
RESPONSIBILITY HERE AND WILL TRAVEL TO TAIPEI (ON HIS
TOURIST VISA) EVERY TWO OR THREE MONTHS TO OVERSEE
THE OPERATION.
GLEYSTEN

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Message Attributes

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